

# The Washington Times

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1901.

## Prosperity and Poverty.

This is the most prosperous country in the world. Its resources are the greatest, its progress of recent years the most rapid. The people who live in it feel that they are fortunately situated, and they welcome the industrious alien who desires to be of their number. There is, however, another side that is worth consideration.

In a thoughtful work touching the subject of poverty, Robert Hunter estimates that there are in the United States 10,000,000 people miserably poor. By this he means those who either are paupers or having a struggle to prevent circumstances from forcing them across the line into the realm of indigents. One of a pessimistic turn of mind would be inclined to take a gloomy view of a situation that shows about one person in eight close to hunger or the bread of charity. However, there are many reasons for being cheerful even in the presence of figures rather disheartening.

Much of the poverty is in large cities, and the population of thirty-three of these large cities is more than half of foreign birth. The foreigners have crowded in faster than the problem of distribution could be worked out. When the fact is considered that the single State of Texas could sustain the whole population and then be less densely settled than some parts of Europe, fretting about overcrowding seems several centuries premature.

A scientist described dirt as matter out of place, and another defined a weed as a plant of which the use had not been discovered. Applying the spirit of these benign terms to the human race, conclusion may be reached that the pressing need is for adjustment, and that this can be wrought out in season, a mere phase of social evolution, there is no reason to doubt. An eminent brain specialist has lately declared that the brain of the American type now forming from the admixture of bloods is destined to be an instance of the highest development. Thus it may be trusted to grapple the problems it may meet.

There is poverty, just as there is oppression and crime. There are wrongs that flourish until an inclination arises to deem them permanent. There are social blemishes, economic faults, but no final basis has been reached, and no excuse for despair. The material is available. There is needed only justice and common sense in the fitting of each part of the structure. Some matter is still "out of place," for certain weeds the "use has not been discovered."

## Prevention of Fires.

An interesting paper in the "Insurance Press" calls attention to the necessity for prevention of fires. It cites the circumstance, rarely thought of, that such a conflagration might occur as would place the insurance companies beyond the power of paying losses.

The wisdom of preventing fires does not need any sustaining argument. There is no question concerning it. In all cities there should be the requirement of non-combustible materials, ample equipment for fighting flames, and such other precautions as suggest themselves to intelligence.

Insurance companies have a right to exact a rate in accordance with the degree of risk. That they have a right, at any rate which might be named to assume risks greater than they could meet provided the demand should occur, is very far from appearing. The frank declaration that they are doing this will be received with surprise. Naturally, the companies urge the use of great precautions, because they must feel that over them there hangs the threat of ruin. It is the trusting supposition of the man who pays for insurance that the concern accepting his money binds itself to conditions not impossible to perform. There arises in the mind of the observer not expert in the matter, a wonder that an insurance authority should, even in advocating better fire protection, have made the admission of a weakness so vital.

## Wanted—Cheap Play.

Nine men out of ten who work indoors suffer for lack of exercise. Five of the nine are growing fat and the other four have indigestion. They are all marooned and they know it.

What is needed is an exercise that a busy man can take without thrusting himself into the poorhouse.

He has his living to earn, and it takes most of his time to earn it. So he cannot journey twenty miles away from his desk for half an hour's play. He has his family to keep, and

probably it takes every cent he can earn to keep it. So he cannot buy polo ponies or spend \$20 on a golf outfit. He must keep pace with his office associates, and it takes about all his mentality to do it. So he must find recreation which relaxes his brain as well as his body.

In other words, the average professional man needs cheap play.

Now, play is today the most expensive commodity in the market. Also it is the scarcest. Golf, which many men think most heartily meets their need, requires a long trip to the country, a considerable outfit at the start, and is expensive to maintain. The trip to the country must be made in the middle of the afternoon, when the man at the desk is neck-deep in figures or swallowed up by some other work; and the maintenance of his golf outfit carries with it club dues enough to clothe at least one of his children. Golf might do; but it does not.

Where is the genius of the twentieth century? The real genius who is ready to deal with real difficulties and not merely to toy with balloons or imitate old Dr. Franklin by playing with electricity?

If anybody knows where he is let him speak up. There is an opportunity here in the crying need for exercise for the display of his most magic powers. And nine men out of ten will hail him as the master spirit of the age.

## Insurance Gambling.

Advices from London state that thousands of pounds are being paid to underwriters there for insurance policies on the life of the Czar. The rate is steadily increasing, having trebled within a short time.

This sort of insurance is gambling, pure and simple. If it is legitimate, there cannot be any form of gambling which can be decided. It is worse than betting on horse races, the turn of a card, the outcome of election. Leaving all questions of morals aside, it should be forbidden as a matter of public weal.

The writer of the policy bets that the Czar will live a certain period. The payer of the premium bets that the Czar will die within the specified time. To imagine such conditions resulting as would make the death of the subject financially desirable is not a difficult mental process.

Insurance of babies has led to increased infant mortality. Insurance of wives has tempted men to create for themselves a state of widowhood. Insurance of a ruler, the stakes at issue reaching into the millions, appears at exactly a similar status.

Regardless of all else, such bets are a coarse and repellent style of speculation. They do not argue any fine sense of decency, but the mere contemplation of them is shocking.

## Points in Paragraphs.

Many Russians run away to avoid enlisting, but the ones who get into the army don't run worth a cent.

The proposition to tax and feather Mr. Addicks meets with disfavor. Nobody wants to spoil a good pillow for him.

Mutilation of papers in the Congressional Library is not only a crime but it is a mighty mean trick.

There are reasonable hopes that P. Filmore Taylor, of Georgetown, will live long enough to be hanged.

Glad to learn that yellow journalism rescued the crew of the Drumteller, but sorry and surprised that journalism not yellow didn't happen to notice the circumstance.

The "New York Times" will soon be in the finest newspaper building in the United States. No paper could be more deserving of the good fortune.

Missionary Willard, of Utah, is circulating a pamphlet setting forth why Senator Smoot should be unseated. Meanwhile the committee is trying to gather evidence more direct.

Poland has acquired the habit of burning the Czar in effigy, a process tending to make the actual Czar hot.

Mr. Black never wanted it, and Odell was only joking.

Attempt to escape from Folsom prison in California still prevails as a form of suicide.

An American girl has been married to a Japanese. Congratulations withheld on suspicion that they would be a misfit.

Two men in New York agreed to commit suicide together, but one survived. If he has any nice idea as to the sacredness of a bargain he will decline to "wesh" in this fashion.

Fifteen converts bound for a crank colony in Maine were stopped at Ellis Island and deported. Native born idiots, however, are plentiful enough to keep this colony going.

The cousin of an English earl has been sent to jail for a blackguardly assault. His views as to this outrage on aristocracy are interesting but not printable.

"Irrigatia" is suggested as name for the new State made up of Arizona and Mexico. The Territorials feel sore enough now. No use rubbing it in.

## CHAUNCEY WINS OUT.

Odell, he did but jest.  
Black's boom has gone to rest.  
Payn has pulled down his vest.  
He's up the spout.

Now for the tale and quip  
Told as the diners sip.  
Joy's loose—let her rip.  
Hear Chauncey shout.

Let the joke circulate,  
Let the wit percolate.  
For, we are pleased to state,  
Chauncey wins out.

# IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY

## CABINET WOMEN

### PLAN RECEPTIONS

#### Customary Observance of New Year Day.

#### LISTS OF THE ASSISTANTS

#### Elaborate Functions Prepared for the Stream of Callers From Official and Social Circles.

One of the pleasantest of the many pleasant old customs instituted in official society is the opening of Cabinet homes on New Year Day, that officials from the various branches of the Government may call upon the heads of their departments, and drink and wish them many happy returns of the day. Receptions are from 2:30 o'clock p. m.

This year each woman of the Cabinet family has vied with the other in presenting an imposing list of assistants, most of them retaining the wives of the assistant secretaries of their husband's department. Several popular women will receive, first at one Cabinet home and then another, remaining a short time at each.

About the largest reception for Monday will be at the home of Speaker Cannon, where Miss Cannon acts as hostess. She will have to assist her Mrs. J. L. Loese, of Chicago, who is her house guest; Mrs. Boutell, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Mandell, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Bushy, Mrs. Vanderbilt, Miss Palmer, Miss Warren, Miss Moore, Miss Black, Miss Wright, and the Misses McClintock.

#### Assisting Mrs. Hay at the diplomatic breakfast in the home of the Secretary of State will be their two daughters, Mrs. Payne Whitney and Mrs. James W. Wadsworth, Jr.

The only other women there besides the wives of diplomats and of the assistant secretaries of State, will be Mrs. Slater, Miss Parsons and Miss Catherine Eddy.

#### Mrs. Shaw's Assistants.

Assisting Mrs. Shaw, wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, will be Mrs. Robert B. Armstrong, Mrs. Charles Hallan Keen, and Mrs. Horace A. Taylor, wives of the assistant secretaries of the Treasury; Mrs. Senator Scott, Mrs. Charles Spalding, Mrs. Milton Reed, Mrs. Conner, wife of Judge Conner, of Iowa; Mrs. Victor Kauffmann, the Misses Loebel of Paris, who are the guests of the Italian ambassador and Baroness Mayor; Miss Perle A. Anderson, Miss Walker-Martin, daughter of the wife of the Chilean minister; Miss Pansy Perkins, daughter of the Senator, and Miss Shaw, her daughter.

Mrs. Taft, wife of the Secretary of War, who will hold her first reception since becoming a Cabinet officer's wife, will have assisting her Mrs. Oliver, wife of the Assistant Secretary of War; Mrs. Audenried, Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. Buckner, Washington, Mrs. Frank Ellis, Mrs. Henry W. Taft, of New York; the Misses Oliver, Miss Goodwin, daughter of the British ambassador, and Mrs. Humphrey.

Mrs. Paul Morton, wife of the Secretary of the Navy, who calls on her ultra-fashionable set as well as official society, will be assisted by Mrs. Frederick Dent Grant, Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, sister of the President, Mrs. Converse, Mrs. Higginson, Mrs. Rae, Mrs. Hoyt, Mrs. John W. Foster, Baroness Moncheur, wife of the Belgian minister; Mrs. Chalmers, of Chicago; Miss Ridgely, Miss Boardman, Miss Edith Wetmore, Viscountess de Faramond, Mrs. Lodge, Mrs. Winslow, Miss Eddy, and Miss Elkins.

Mrs. Wynne, wife of the Postmaster General, who though old in Washington life, will pass her first New Year Day in the Cabinet, will have with her the three wives of the Assistant Postmaster Generals, Mrs. Shallenberger, Mrs. Madden, Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Goodwin. Others assisting her are Mrs. Charles S. Bromwell, Mrs. J. C. Sibley, Mrs. Louis Coolidge, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Adair, daughter of the Mexican ambassador, Miss Anderson, Miss Adams, Miss Harvey, Miss India Fleming, and the Misses Pilon, of New York.

Besides her two daughters, the Misses Hitchcock, Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, will have assisting her Mrs. Spooner, Mrs. Foraker, Mrs. Newlands, Miss Keen, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Walcott, Mrs. Frank, Mrs. Marble, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Peirce, Mrs. Arthur Sewell, Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. K. B. Conways, Mrs. Alfred Foley, Mrs. Fairbank, Mrs. Corcoran Thom, Miss Gertrude Myer, Miss Nast, Miss Romond Dalgren, Miss Carlisle, Mrs. Charles Roosevelt, of New York, and Miss Gwendolyn Cummings, formerly of Boston.

#### In the Metcalf Home

Mrs. Metcalf, wife of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, who receives at the Arlington has invited to assist her Mrs. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Mrs. John Dalzell, Mrs. Henry Kirk Porter, Miss Hegeman, Mrs. Bates, Miss Lucy Keen, Miss Elizabeth Keen, Miss Wetmore, Miss Lovelock, Mrs. James R. Garfield, Miss McClintock, Miss Patten and Miss MacVeagh.

General and Mrs. Chaffee will have to assist the recently returned Mrs. Gillespie, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Hutcheson, Mrs. Harrison, the Misses Oliver, who will divide time with several Cabinet women; Miss Sheridan, Miss Randolph, Miss Durand, Miss Hagner, Miss Hawkins, Miss Sherman, Miss Chucker, and the following officers: Captain Hutcheson, Captain Ramsey, Captain Butler, Captain Perkins, and Captain May.

Mrs. Dewey will have assisting her, as daughters for the dinner of the Navy, the Misses Boardman, Miss Carter, Mrs. E. C. Conover, Mrs. Crosby, Miss Briggs, Miss Endicott, Miss Ritch, Miss Tremont, Miss Gibson, Miss Gowman, Miss Haldane, Miss Hughes, Miss Lamberton, Miss Louze, Miss McGowan, Miss McLean, Miss Miller, Misses Potter, Miss Potts, Miss Remoy, Miss Rush, Miss Sander, Mrs. Sargent, Miss Schroeder, Miss Strong, Miss Van Rye, Miss Wallace, Miss Williams, Mrs. Wood, and the wife of the Admiral's aide, and Mrs. Ludlow. Hours, 12:30 to 4.

#### TAYLER MAY SUCCEED JUDGE WING IN OHIO

It is believed at the White House that ex-Representative Robert W. Taylor of Ohio will be nominated by the President as judge of the Northern district of Ohio to succeed Judge WING. Mr. Taylor's service in Congress and connection with the Roberts and Smoot cases have made him well known in Washington. Secretary Taft is favoring the nomination of John H. Dodge, of Toledo, who was offered the judgeship before its acceptance by Judge Wing. It is believed, though the plum will fall to Mr. Taylor.



MRS. GEORGE LAW.  
New York Society Leader, Who Is the Guest of Senator and Mrs. Elkins.

## SENATORS' HOMES SCENES OF GAYETY

### Tea and Reception Given by Mrs. Fairbanks.

#### MRS. FORAKER DINNER HOST

#### Mrs. George Law Guest of Mr. and Mrs. Elkins—Social Gossip of the Day.

Two of the most important events on the social calendar for today are the large tea and reception at the home of Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks, and the dinner at the home of Senator and Mrs. Foraker.

The tea to have been given this afternoon by Commander and Mrs. I. S. K. Reeves to introduce their charming young daughter, Miss Joan Reeves, will not take place, the invitations having been recalled on account of serious illness in the family.

Mrs. George Law, of New York, first in Washington last evening as guest of Senator and Mrs. Elkins in time for the dinner party at which they were hosts. The other guests included the ambassador from Austria-Hungary and Baroness Hengelmüller, the Belgian minister and Baroness Moncheur, Gen. and Mrs. William F. Draper, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth, Oscar G. Murray, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, Miss Townsend, Miss de Koven, Miss Eleanor Hoyt, Miss Evelyn Walsh, Miss Bird, Miss Katharine Elkins, Mr. Darling, of the British embassy, Robert Goebel, Monsieur Robinson, Edward McLean, Richard Elkins and Stephen B. Elkins, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Henley Smith entertained a dinner party last night when among their guests were Col. and Mrs. Charles S. Brewster, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Cromwell, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee, Dr. and Mrs. Becker, and Mrs. Peyton Russell.

Mrs. Daniel Lathrop, of Concord, Mass., and her daughter, Miss Margaret Lathrop, will be with Mrs. Dalzell this afternoon at the latter's regular weekly at home.

Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell and Miss Miriam Bell were hostess at a tea yesterday afternoon from 4 to 7 o'clock, when assisting them were Mrs. Charles J. Bell, Mrs. E. Grosvenor, Mrs. Fremont Smith, Miss Van Rye, and Miss Sowers.

Guest of the Hitchcocks.

The Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Hitchcock will have as their guests over New Year Day, Mrs. Conways, and Mrs. Arthur Sewell, of Philadelphia.

Miss Maud Wetmore has as her guest for the week's end, Miss Edith Root.

Miss Cannon, daughter of and hostess for Speaker Cannon, has returned to Washington from her Christmas trip to her home at Danville, Mrs. J. L. Loose, of Chicago, returns with her, and will be her guest for the greater part of the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Walsh while taking no active part in society, being in mourning for Mr. Walsh's brother who died in Georgia a few weeks ago, will have as their guests over the New Year Gen. and Mrs. Frederick Dent Grant and Peter A. Collier of New York. Their daughter and son, Miss Evelyn Walsh and Vinson Walsh, are also spending the holidays here. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh will accompany their daughter back to Paris the first of the year, and will remain abroad until next summer.

Miss Edes, contrary to her custom of past years, will not give a New Year tea, as she has been quite ill for several weeks. This annual function, which has

# IN THE BOOK WORLD

## Charlotte Bronte's Husband.

The husband of Charlotte Bronte, Mr. Nichols, is still living in an Irish village, the object of much honor and respect among a large circle of friends. Mr. Nichols has had the unpleasant task of denying some ill-founded gossip concerning his brilliant wife, who died a few months after her marriage. Among other things it was said that he discouraged her from writing, a totally untrue statement which Mr. Nichols has been forced to contradict again and again.

C. K. Shorter, in the "London Sphere," now repeats the contradiction. He is an authority on the Brontës, and he annotated, and wrote an introduction for, the Harworth edition of their works (Harpers), for which Mrs. Humphrey Ward wrote the preface. This edition includes Mrs. Gaskell's "Life of Charlotte Bronte."

## More Crisp Folly.

The wages of sin is alimony. Of two evils choose the prettier. A fool and his money corrupt good manners. A guilty conscience is the mother of invention. From "Folly for the Wise," by Carolyn Wells.

## Thomas Bailey Aldrich's New Play.

Thomas Bailey Aldrich has just written a play which was produced at the Tremont Theater, Boston, by Miss Nancy O'Neill last month. The title, "Judith of Bethulia," marks the work as in part a dramatization of the author's narrative poem, "Judith and Holofernes." Although it contains lines and passages from the story, the drama is essentially a distinct work, dealing with characters, incidents and situations not to be found in the poem or in the apocryphal episode upon which both pieces were based.

Judith herself is portrayed as a woman full of tenderness, mercy and refinement, but who is compelled by religious fervor and love of country to do a deed of great daring. The work has just appeared in book form through the press of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and contains spirited portraits of Miss O'Neill in the character of Judith.

## Ruskin's Self-Revelatory Letters.

A man's letters to his closest friend often make his best biography. Such is the case with "The Letters of John Ruskin to Charles Elliot Norton" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). They are, in fact, a sort of autobiography; for they are the most familiar and self-revelatory of Ruskin's letters hitherto printed. In them he discloses his intimate moods and his inner purposes, his hopes and fears, his doubts and ambitions. He expresses his opinions on American and European politics, sketches his friends, and gives glimpses of his work, and of the places that he loved—Venice, Verona, Florence, many points in the Alps, Monaco, and Amherst. But the strongest interest is the personal one—the light the letters throw upon one of the most brilliant, most talented, and most attractive of modern Englishmen.

A number of interesting and intimate portraits lend an additional attraction to the volumes.

## ARMY PRECEDENCE AT RECEPTION

The following interpretations have been placed by the Chief of Staff on the circular recently issued from the War Department directing officers of the army, in this city and vicinity, to assemble at the office of the Chief of Staff on Monday, and proceed thence to the

## Mr. Foster's New Book.

John W. Foster, a Washingtonian, who has had a longer and more varied diplomatic career than perhaps any other American, with the possible exception of John Quincy Adams, has just presented to the public a most timely book, entitled "Arbitration and the Hague Court" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). The book contains a brief review of the events relating to arbitration, up to the convocation of The Hague peace conference; it states the circumstances under which that conference was called, the appropriateness of The Hague for such an assembly, and the distinguished personnel and spirit of the conference. The present triumph of the principle of arbitration in reference to the North Sea affair between England and Russia, and the impending action of the American Senate on arbitration treaties, make the appearance of the present book most opportune. Mr. Foster is president of the National Arbitration Conference.

## An Editorial Doll.

Elizabeth Jordan, the editor of "Harper's Bazar," and author of "Mary Iversen—Her Book," was recently asked to dress the editor of a Chicago paper to dress a doll for the benefit of the poor children of Chicago. This "exchange of editorial courtesies" resulted in a dainty little personage who, in point of style and taste, was quite up to the standard which the "Bazar" upholds as the arbiter of fashion. To the girls who read her book the fact that Miss Jordan is keenly appreciative to the charms of a pretty doll may be a new bond of sympathy, even though the girls themselves may have "outgrown such things."

## New Garden Magazine.

Following on the success of their two comparatively new magazines, "The World's Work" and "Country Life in America," Doubleday, Page & Co. announce a third magazine in an all but untouched field. The Garden Magazine, as it is to be called, will be confined strictly to gardening subjects. It will be a "gardener's reminder," pointing out the things to be done during that month, and the magazine will be delivered to subscribers two weeks before the first of the month, in ample time to have the work well in hand. Twenty-five departments cover all branches of flower and vegetable gardening, garden trees and shrubs, hot-house and coldframe, growing, indoor plants and window-boxes, in various parts of the country.

## Songs by the Way.

Mrs. Marian Longfellow O'Donoghue, of this city, publishes through the Gorham press an attractive book of short poems entitled "Contrasted Songs." About 100 songs of the sea, the fields and woods, twilight, and kindred phases of nature, are included, and most of them have the qualities of real lyrics and the spirit of real poetry. One in particular, "The Iris," is remarkable for the following verses:

Adown the grassy hill they come  
To greet me every morn;  
These little maids (in Norman cap)  
Of joy and springtime born.  
They never speak, and yet they nod  
A friendly greeting there,  
And all their beauty round me seems  
A fragrance in the air.  
They stand a line of vestal pure,  
Or each a sweet-faced nun;  
While on each sunny cap there falls  
The radiance of the sun.

## White House to pay their respects to the President of the United States.

One—General officers on the retired list will accompany or follow general officers of the General Staff of like grade on the active list.

Two—General officers of staff corps on the retired list will accompany or follow general officers on the active list of the corresponding corps.

Three—Generally, retired officers accompany or follow officers of their grade and precede officers of the next lower grade on the active list.

## Book-Taught Bilkins Learns Phrenology.



Ah! The study of phrenology is very easy and very interesting.

Oh! yes, my friends, I understand phrenology perfectly. You dispositions are known to me as an open book.

This lady, for example—The bumps on the side and front of the head indicate a lack of benevolence and a tendency toward secretiveness, self-esteem and imitation.

The bumps on the top of the head denote combativeness and a penurious, selfish and talkative disposition.

I'll teach you to insult a lady.

I'll leave it to anyone here if I did not read her head correctly.